REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1-23 have been amended. No Claims have been cancelled. No Claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-23 are presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 3, and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Reiner, U.S. Patent No. 6,219,676 ("Reiner") in view of Kaufer et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,519,763 ("Kaufer").

Claim 1, as amended, in pertinent part, recites "detecting predetermined audit intervals to perform periodic audits; performing the periodic audits of the customer system in accordance with the predetermined audit intervals . . . and transferring the audit data to the application server, the application server to perform a comparison . . . to detect changes to the customer system" (emphasis provided).

As an initial matter, Applicants submit that <u>Kaufer</u> does not teach or suggest any of those limitations missing from <u>Reiner</u>. For example, <u>Reiner</u> discloses "a method and system to establish and maintain cache coherency between a web server and one or more clients" by "designating monitor areas on a data segment of the server, determining if an activity occurs in one of the monitor areas, updating a change log if such activity occurs, and indicating the updated status of the change log to the clients" (Abstract; see also col. 2, lines 36-43, 48-52 and 57-60, col. 7, lines 28-64; emphasis provided). First, <u>Reiner</u> does not teach or reasonably suggest detecting predetermined audit intervals or performing periodic audits based on such predetermined audit intervals, as recited by claim 1. At best, <u>Reiner</u> discloses predetermined monitor areas, and further discloses

determining an activity in those predetermined monitor areas. Second, Reiner discloses indicating the client of the updated status, which is not the same as transferring the audit data to the application server and having the application server to perform a comparison to detect changes, as recited by claim 1.

Kaufer discloses "data extraction and manipulation process which employs a mathematical algorithm and knowledge base of rules to provide a *prediction of anticipated project completion* with enhanced accuracy" (col. 1, lines 37-41; emphasis provided). Kaufer, like Reiner, does not teach or suggest detecting predetermined audit intervals, performing periodic audits based on such predetermined audit intervals, and transferring the audit data to the application server and having the application server to perform a comparison to detect changes as recited by claim 1. Hence, Kaufer adds nothing relevant to Reiner at least with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims.

With regard to claim 15, as amended, it contains limitations similar to those of claim 1 and accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15 and its dependent claims.

Claims 4 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Reiner in view of Kaufer and further in view of McDonald et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,530,065 (McDonald).

Claims 5, 6, 7, and 19-21 stand rejected under under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Reiner in view of Kaufer and in view of Jim Whitehead, *Re:*Snapshots, ("Whitehead") and further in view of Blea et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,212,531 ("Blea").

Claims 8, 9, 22, and 23 stand rejected under 35. U.S. C. § 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Reiner in view of Kaufer and further in view of BrainTree, *Policy Manager* ("BrainTree").

Claim 10 stands rejected under under 35. U.S. C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiner in view of Michael L. Nelson, *The NASA Technical Report Server* ("Nelson").

Claims 11-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S. C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiner in view of Nelson and further in view of Kaufer.

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35. U.S. C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiner in view of Nelson and further in view of Kaufer and further in view of McDonald et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,530,065 ("McDonald").

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35. U.S. C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiner in view of Nelson in view of Whitehead and further in view of Blea.

With regard to claim 10, as amended, it contains limitations similar to those of claim 1 and accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 10 and its dependent claims.

With regard to claims 4-9, 11-14, and 18-23, they depend from one of independent claims 1, 10 and 15 and thus, they include the limitations of the claim from which depend. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4-9, 11-14, and 18-23.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that claims as amended are now in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the application be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 2, 2004

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